

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

"Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion, unto the Lord our God."—JEREMIAH.

No. 3, Vol. XXIX.

Saturday, January 19, 1867.

Price One Penny.

WHAT HAS RELIGION DONE FOR MANKIND?

BY ELDER N. H. FELT.

When pausing in the midst of the cares and duties of life, we reflect upon the various and diversified creeds and religions of mankind, more especially upon that portion denominated Christendom, and are led seriously to inquire, What have these sects and parties done, during a thousand years or more, towards regenerating the world, ennobling the human race, and securing the rights of mankind, or in concentrating, combining, and organising their physical and mental powers to one great and glorious purpose, for which the Gospel of salvation was evidently sent to earth?

Can any one point out, in any part of the known world, any definite, substantial manifestation of even the commencement of the coming of that kingdom, for which we were taught, from childhood, to pray; or any place where the will of our Father is done on earth as it is in heaven? We learn in the Scriptures of divine truth, that the Son of God came to bring the Gospel to the Jews; hence the command to the disciples was, "Go not into the cities of the Gentiles, but rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." The

Jews would not receive it, though he "would have gathered them as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings." As the Jews would not receive the Gospel, then the command went forth, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel," thus fulfilling his words, "The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof." Is this the meaning of Paul, when he said to the Jews, "It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you; but seeing ye put it away from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles." If so, who are the Gentiles, to whom the kingdom was to be given; and where are the fruits that were to be brought forth? We read of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the toil, sufferings, and death of the Apostles, and subsequently, the persecutions, torture, and death inflicted upon almost all of their disciples and followers. We are led to look around us, to see if we can discover, after so many years, any results commensurate to the magnitude of the sacrifice; and though we search the

history of the world since the days of Jesus, we cannot find an account of any well concerted plan, in any part of the earth, to inaugurate that perfect system of order, truth, and justice, embodied in the teachings of the Savior, and expressed in the remarkable prayer, "I pray thee that they may be one, even as we are one."

It is not surprising then, if we again ask, What have the Gentile nations, or those who assume to be the followers of Jesus, done towards accomplishing the great and glorious object intended, in the introduction of the Gospel of salvation to man? Have those professing to teach that Gospel, for the last thousand years, adhered to its precepts, taught and practiced its principles in purity? If so, why is it, after so many centuries of experiment upon mankind, that we cannot place our finger upon a spot on earth where the beauty, order, and glory of that Gospel of the kingdom have been developed? We learn, historically, that for one or two hundred years, there were men who went forth into the darkness of heathenism, with their lives in their hands, to promulgate the doctrines of Jesus, with all the powers of darkness to oppose them; and we learn they were persecuted, sawn asunder, crucified, stoned to death, destroyed. Following this history, we learn that a certain church arose, claiming the only true connection with those early martyrs, and assuming to hold the same divine authority, with direct succession of Apostolic power. All who are acquainted with the history of the Roman Catholic Church, will admit that it has been sustained, from century to century, by the highest human intellect, combined with the power, wealth, and influence of entire kingdoms and empires; and yet, where can she point to results that accord with that perfect law of liberty afforded by the Gospel?

There cannot be a shadow of a doubt, but what the purifying influence of the spirit and power of the Gospel, radiating from Christ and the Twelve Apostles, penetrated the thick darkness of heathenism, mellowing and inspiring with intelligence the human mind, even down to the present age. But let us inquire, has that

church, pretending to be the Church of God, been the medium through which the benign influence of the Gospel has been transmitted down to the present time? If so, its history for ages past would show forth some of the fruits of that Gospel that was designed to bring peace and good will to man. That history, contrary to the precepts of our divine Master, is replete with the most sanguinary evidences of the power of that church, which with the sword, fagot, and torture, has deluged nations in blood, to attain its unholy ascendancy. If we refer to the Reformation, and to the scenes of blood through which for years it passed, and admitting the purity of motive, zeal, and devotion of its advocates, still the question arises, what did they accomplish by the sacrifices of all they held dear upon the earth? We find to-day the Greek, Catholic, and Protestant, with all their varied sects and creeds, completely merged in the world, and only to be distinguished as Christendom. But where is the kingdom of God? It no doubt was a blessing to mankind, that Constantine employed his power and influence to overthrow the time honored idol worship, that prevailed throughout the Roman empire; but we are aware that all he could do, in so praiseworthy a cause, was but to compromise with old traditions and barbarism, yet it opened the way then for many of the pure in heart to obtain some light and hope from the promises of the Gospel, though the clouds of error and superstition still hung heavily over the world.

It was also good that Luther, Huss, Calvin, and hosts of others, struggled manfully against the tide of corruption, folly, and wickedness, that appeared to flood, and almost overwhelm all Christendom; but, after all their virtues and heroism, what kind of a legacy did they leave to the world?

Jesus says, "A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand." Alas! instead of being one, even as he and the Father are one, division, contention, confusion, and dismay exist among the followers of the Reformation, each party claiming to be the true Church of Christ, each pretending to have the "form of godliness,"

and all "denying the power thereof." If they possessed the kingdom, would not they bring forth the fruits of the kingdom? Could they deny the utility of the very organization that God set in the Church, of Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Teachers, and Evangelists? Would they deny the necessity of obtaining that faith "once delivered to the Saints," with all the miracles, helps, governments, so necessary, formerly, to perfect the Saints? or are they already perfect? Again we will ask, What have the Christian churches done towards attaining the object for which the Gospel was offered to man? Let us cast a glance at things as they have been in the past, and as they are at present. We see in Christendom a great variety of churches, each one claiming to be the true Church of Christ. They have numbers, influence, and wealth; they send missionaries to the uttermost parts of the earth, to almost every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. With what success? Do they send the "olive branch?" Do they send that which brings life and immortality to light, causing those that sit in darkness to break forth in songs of gladness and praises to the Most High? Let us see. Missionaries carry the Gospel to the benighted inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands. The history of those islands, for the last century, shows that instead of godliness, purity, and salvation, being established among them, they never were so filthy and degraded while in their heathenism, as they have been since the Christians went among them, and the poor islanders are fading away, polluted, debauched, dying, until the native population are nearly extinct. Some may say that this is not the result of Christianity. No, not of true Christianity; but who can deny that it was caused by association with the civilization of Christendom?

Again, the Christian minister goes to the American Indians: the fate of the poor aborigines is the same: they fade away upon the introduction of Christianity, backed by fire and sword. But worst of all, behold, with horror, the loathsome corruption that follows in the train of civilization, that never appeared while in their ignorance,

they worshipped the Great Spirit. Therefore the Indian turns away with disgust and hatred from his white, Christian brothers. Other ministers of the Gospel go to carry salvation to the African, and the ignorant black man shrinks from his white brothers who enslave him: he turns a deaf ear to the Gospel, and chooses rather to rush into the solitude of the desert. The Japanese trample upon the cross; the Australasians are slaughtered, to give place to their Christian brothers; the Sepoys must bite the *greased cartridge* or die; the Jew turns in scorn from the pretended expounder of the Law and the Prophets, and spurns the ignorance of those sent to teach him of a Gospel his fathers refused, and of a Messiah long expected by his people.

But let us look a moment nearer home, directly in our own midst, where the blaze of Gospel light sheds forth its greatest lustre. Where may we expect to find the clearest proofs of the existence of the pure Gospel? Shall we find it in the records of those grand cathedrals, erected for the worship of the true and living God? in the sumptuous Bishops' palaces? or in the luxurious temples of either Protestants or Catholics? Alas! how could we expect to hear the sublime teachings of Him who said, "love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them who hate you, and pray for them who despitefully use you and persecute you," among those who have long displayed a disposition to defame and vilify each other, and whose contentions, for years, have caused devastation, misery, and bloodshed, upon every occasion of outbreak, and in every country wherever they are located? Shall we seek for the fruits of the kingdom in the cities, towns, and hamlets of this, the brightest field of Christian labors, England? Let us take up the daily records of its fruits, and it is but a sample of every city in Christendom. Do they report, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth?" Look at the lists. Alas! they are but the reflex of the public mind, and then, only, so far as appear upon the surface. Read the catalogue of crime: murder, arson, robbery, perjury, blasphemy, adultery, seduction, destitution, infanticide, despair,

desperation, death. Look into the streets of the capitals of Christendom, see them lined on every side with brilliantly lighted *avenues of hell*! see them, and the street, swarming with innumerable misled, depraved, degraded victims of a "nobler sex," thousands of whom, were it not for man-made Christianity, might have been honored mothers of an honored race, but now are on the broad way that leads to death; aye, worse than death, entailing upon the third and fourth generation the most revolting effects of a life of infamy and shame, thus

marking with the finger of that living death, those that escape the executioner at the birth, but to convey it to another generation. This is a mournful picture of enlightened Christendom; but who can say but what it is too true? What hope, then, is there for this world, if these are the fruits produced by the nation or people to whom the kingdom was once given? None! none! unless God, in his infinite mercy, reveal his will, and open another dispensation of the Gospel to man.

THOUGHTS FOR THE YOUTHFUL AMONG THE SAINTS.

"I speak to them that know the truth." This is very consolatory, for it furnishes a grand foundation whereon to build a superstructure of thought. I have no need to let the light in on the mind cautiously, lest it should be blasted by excess of brightness, as is the wont in speaking to young men. But arguing from a fact, the possession of truth, to speak on subjects that fact suggests.

Any one with sense will admit, that this is a trying period for youth that is striving to live soberly, righteously, and godly in the world. Young men are apt to lack self-reliance, and to follow the example of others, lest they incur censure and ridicule. It is the thing now-a-days to be thought "fast," which means a monkeyish imitation of the dress, manners, and language of persons who are supposed to exhibit a correct style. As regards dress, this slavish imitation leads some to foolish extremes, especially females. It is astonishing what heart-burnings are occasioned by Emma Jones having a better bonnet than Mary Brown. How many meannesses are perpetrated to create a sensation by some new article of attire. Young men and women seem to delight in reducing themselves to lay-figures whereon to hang clothes. They judge a person by his or her dress, and a gentleman, in their idea, is a well dressed man. As regards manners and language, "fast" ex-

amples are more pernicious still. The manners are flashy and conceited, arguing a "pitiful ambition in the fool that uses them," to be thought a person of experience, "knowing," "cute," and sophisticated. This is why boys take to smoking so early, drink beer, and court the society of females. The language is generally an adoption of slang, and frequently obscenity and swearing. Heaven save the mark! this is deemed *manly*. But let me ask any one of this opinion, if he understands the meaning of a *snob*. These things arise, I repeat, from want of self-reliance and vanity. Thoughtlessness is no excuse, for

Evil is wrought
By want of thought,
As well as want of heart.

There is in these cases sometimes *too much* self-reliance, which is another phase of vain-gloriousness. If a person thinks, "I am too well grounded in my principles to incur risk, if I do so and so, and go so and so," he is trusting his own heart, and the Bible says, *is a fool*. Our safety from temptation is next to God's good grace, a careful avoidance of the persons, places, and circumstances that lead to it. Our faith teaches us that recreation is both just and lawful, leaving it to us to determine what is so for ourselves. Now, there is an old proverb which says, "What is one man's meat, is another man's poison," and

there are so many differently constituted minds, that no rule could be laid down in this respect. But if I am fond of the drama, for instance, and can listen with even a certain amount of profit to a fine play, another man, of an imaginative temperament, may find a theatre the very place where his soul is most tempted with evil thoughts. Dancing, a graceful and classic amusement, is to some most dangerous, and so it will always be as long as noblest things find vilest using. My tastes for the drama, the dance, or music, do not allow me to go everywhere to indulge them. Every Saint has a reputation to sustain, lest he bring, however slightly, an imputation of blame on his religion. Self-denial must be practiced in small things, for "none of us liveth to himself." The amusements of London are not like those in Great Salt Lake City, where they can ask divine blessings on all they engage in. But this custom of our true fatherland should be carefully remembered, and all that we cannot ask God to bless, is certainly wrong. A young man who sets up his own opinion in this or any other matter, because it is his own, will surely make himself ridiculous, and pickle rods for his own back.

Selection of books is another point, which excessive self-reliance errs in. To read is not only delightful, but a duty. So it is to eat and drink. But I am not to indulge in night-shade and prussic acid. The Devil tempts us with subtlety to indulge the prurency latent in all young minds, by reading works that avowedly appeal to it. There are nearly two millions a week of vile penny novels sold, in which, without stating facts in plain words, which would be more honest, the excited imagination receives suggestions most libidinous, and thoughts most impure. Now a good novel, as a picture of real life, is delightful reading; but novel reading is dangerous, if followed to the exclusion of other reading. It should be used as a recreation, when it will become pleasant, but not to unfit us for the perusal of more substantial works. A young man or woman who reads only novels, is like a person living on pastry: he gets no strength from his

diet. The ideas become distorted through the medium of fiction. We see men and things not as they are, but as the writer makes them, very often as unlike the real thing, as the pure gold to a base Birmingham counterfeit. If reading were used to supply our mental deficiencies, how little ignorance we should meet; and at this time of day, no young man or woman ought to be ignorant. Ignorance to me manifests one of two things, sometimes both: either the person has wasted the spare time he had, or else is too conceited to be taught. You may say, I have too little time to teach myself after work. This is untrue. The Working Man's Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, was of things made by working men after work hours. Some articles had taken years to complete. And in like manner, if a man employs fifteen minutes daily on cultivating his mind, he may become a learned man. Think of the time girls gossip away, while their minds are as bare as the great Sahara!

The old poet's advice is very fine—
"Do all things like a man, not *sneakingly*."

Sneakism is a very common vice. It is moral cowardice, such as makes men ashamed to stand up for the truth when it is assailed, lest they incur odium and reproach. I have known soldiers who have mounted a breach in the heat of carnage, and braved the mouth of the largest guns, who were afraid to kneel down and say their prayers before their comrades. This is shown too in listening to impure jests and ribald conversation, because we fear to go away taunted by the scoffer, whose conscience would feel your departure a strong rebuke.

Try to get correct ideas of life—

Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal.

View the present in the light of eternity, and how significant and important the most trivial act becomes. Determine to make the noblest use of existence, and be sure in the sphere where God places you, there are ample means for doing your duty. Our faith teaches us the possibility of going on to perfection; and this is a gradual process, as the development of the tiny seed into the full blown

flower. It consists not in doing extraordinary things, so much as doing ordinary things *extraordinarily well*. Each act of duty done in the true Saint's spirit, is the service of God, converting the world into a temple, and our meanest employment into worship. This is glory far grander than the loftiest dream of ambition. This makes us really men, for we are fulfilling our Maker's will, and following the end of our being. And just as the physical body is buoyant with health, so long as the blood is pure, making life glide by like a sunlit stream, or the smooth cadence of a melodious song; so the mind, when all its aspirations are pure and Godward, discovers what the world thirsts for, as the parched traveller for the rippling fountain — *happiness*. The object of all our efforts is to be happy, and as Thackeray wrote, "a heavy heart can bring no gladness out of sunshine." It is from within we see the world without.

The mind is its own place, and in *itself*,
Can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven,

We have been forgiven the sin that embittered life, and we can look up to God and say, My Father, I am thine. Here is the secret of happiness, and you will augment it by doing all things as in His eye. Think not anything too mean or trifling to be done well, it is a part of your service. And if no heaven were promised hereafter, the heaven you will enjoy here will be divine.

Not once nor twice in our rough island story,

The path of duty was the path of glory.

He that follows it, only thirsting

For the right, and learns to deaden

Love of self,—he shall see the stubborn
thistle bursting

Into rich, glossy purples, that outred
The voluptuous garden roses.

For not once nor twice in our fair island story,

The path of duty was the path of glory.

G. DE LA P. BERISFORD.

A NEW ERA INAUGURATED.

(From the *Deseret News Extra*, Dec. 1.)

THE DESERET STATE TELEGRAPH OPENED.

A new era has been inaugurated for the people of this Territory, this evening, the importance of which it is difficult, if not impossible, fully to estimate. The Deseret State Telegraph has been opened, and the following dispatches, dedicatory and congratulatory, have been passed along the wire between this city and Ogden. The first dispatch was forwarded by Mr. John C. Clowes, at 5 p.m., and the reply was returned by Mr. Joseph A. West, a youth of fourteen years of age.

FIRST DISPATCH.

Salt Lake City, Dec. 1, 1866.

To President Lorin Farr and Bishop Channcey W. West, and the Saints in the Northern Country, who gave up freely when called upon. Greeting:—

In my heart I dedicate the Line which is now completed, and being

completed, to the Lord God of Israel, whom we serve, and for the building up of his kingdom; praying that this and all other improvements may contribute to our benefit and the glory of our God, until we can waft ourselves by the power of the Almighty from world to world to our fullest satisfaction.

(Signed) BRIGHAM YOUNG.

REPLY.

President Brigham Young,
Great Salt Lake City.

From our hearts we say AMEN to the dedication which you have just uttered, and we congratulate you, as the great mover of this enterprise, on its successful accomplishment thus far, considering it is one of the great helps in the building up of the kingdom of our God. We trust that not only will the Saints who have contributed to this great work continue their efforts

but that others will also assist in developing other improvements for the benefit of God's work.

May you long live to comfort the Saints, and by their integrity be comforted.

(Signed)

LORIN FARR.

CHAUNCEY W. WEST.

The wire, insulator, &c.; for the Deseret State Telegraph, were brought on this past season. During a portion of the summer and the early part of fall, the people of the settlements north and south were active and energetic in putting up the poles. The wire is now stretched from this City to Logan, Cache county, and it is expected that by the latter end of next week—say, five or six days—it will be in complete working order between this point and that settlement. Two companies of men are engaged in stretching the wire south from this City. One company will work between here and Nephi, at which place they will branch off into San Pete county, the poles having been set from Nephi through Mount Pleasant, Springtown, and Fort Ephraim to Manti. The other company will commence at Scipio, Round Valley, Millard county, and continue their labors south to St. George, Washington county. It is expected that by the last of this month, telegraphic communication will be opened between Great Salt Lake City and the principal settlements north and south.

Offices will be established at the principal cities and settlements on the route of the line. Operators have been trained in the school established less than a year ago, in this city, by Mr. John C. Clowes of the Western Union Telegraph Company, for instruction in the art of telegraphy. The pupils in that school have made very creditable progress, and most of the young men who attended it are now prepared, with very little assistance, to take charge of the various offices. The Western Union Telegraph Company, through Mr. Bassett, their Superintendent in this city, has kindly placed the services of Mr. Clowes at the disposal of President B. Young, to fit up the offices and get the line in good working condition. This assistance, thus courteously rendered, will enable the young men who have been

studying under Mr. Clowes, to conduct the business in the several offices without further aid.

Mr. Clowes had the honor of sending from this City the first dispatch that passed from California through to the east by telegraph, and of receiving the first dispatch sent from the east to California. He may therefore be considered the pioneer operator on the Overland Telegraph line.

There is no other people to whom a telegraph line brings so many and so great blessings as to the Latter-day Saints. While the lines which almost span the world are laden with business communications, or transmit the record of strife, disunion, and contention which reign in many parts of the earth, not only will the Deseret State Telegraph be used for ordinary business matters and the transmission of news, but it is a means by which counsel, advice and instruction can be imparted to the people of the various settlements of the Territory, from those to whom the people look for counsel and instruction, and that almost instantaneously. Up till now the urgent necessity for counsel, which circumstances have created, has been hampered by the lack of greater facilities of communication, and hence the construction of this line became imperative, as the interests of the work of the Lord increased in magnitude, and the welfare of the people demanded more unremitting and greater attention.

Should Indian difficulties again occur, there is now a means by which their inception can be at once known where assistance can be most effectively rendered, and aid can be furnished proportionately early, instruction can be given, and measures devised can be at once communicated for the safety and well-being of the settlements. Every important item of business connected with the growth of truth and righteousness in our cities and settlements; every measure devised for the good of the people; everything that may be required for the more effectual development of the Territory and the welfare of its citizens, can be flashed along the wire; and thus the remote settlements will be placed in the closest and most immediate communication

with the centre, where they look for light, intelligence, and wisdom to guide them in their labors to do good, and build up the work of God, temporally and spiritually.

We have, then, reason for saying that a new era has been inaugurated in this Territory, and that to no other people does the telegraph come laden with so many benefits as to us; and we sincerely congratulate our citizens on the opening of the first telegraph line built by the people of the Latter-day Saints.

The first message transmitted along it, addressed to "the Saints in the northern country, who gave up freely

when called upon" to leave their homes and possessions, in '58, and started out to find new homes under peculiarly trying circumstances, cannot but be gratifying to our brethren in those settlements. And it says to all Saints, everywhere, that however dark a cloud may hang on the horizon of our future, the Great Disposer of events controls and overrules, and will protect his people, bless them above measure, and through them make his name honored and revered throughout the earth, if they continue faithful to their covenants and keep his commandments.

DESERET STATE TELEGRAPH LINE.

(From the Salt Lake Daily Telegraph, Dec. 11th.)

From Mr. John C. Clowes we gain the following particulars of his trip to Logan, Cache county, in putting the Deseret State Telegraph in operation.

Mr. Clowes left the City last Tuesday, 4th inst., in a snow storm, with two wagons heavily loaded with material belonging to the line and offices on the route. Went to Centerville the first evening, fitting up the office at that place, and to Ogden the next evening, where everything was arranged in "working order." The next evening found them in Box Elder, in communication with this City. Mr. Clowes and party were invited and attended a grand military ball at the latter named place, the party reporting that they did justice to the "fantastic," likewise the "supper arrangements." On Friday eve-

ning the extreme northern office, in Logan City, Cache county, was placed in lightning communication with this place. The people throughout the different settlements were all anxiously looking for, and gave the party a hearty welcome. Mr. C. left Logan Sunday morning at 7 o'clock, arriving in this City at 4 a.m. Monday, losing some five hours at Box Elder in rearranging that office. The line north is in splendid condition, and works entirely satisfactory.

Mr. Clowes is making preparations for starting south immediately, and hopes to be able to report the line to St. George all O.K. by the last of this month. The operators on the line are highly spoken of by Mr. Clowes, who considers them perfectly competent to guide and interpret the lightning fluid.

Besides the Deseret State Telegraph line, running through the whole length of the Territory from North to South, there are two independent lines, running from the Atlantic States in the East, *via* Salt Lake City, to the Pacific States in the West, and still another line completed from Salt Lake City, passing northward through the Territory of Idaho into the gold regions of Montana. Thus the chief city of Utah, is made the grand centre from which lightning intelligence is flashed in seven different channels, like "the seven eyes," or "the seven spirits of God," "which run to and fro through the whole earth."

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1867.

TELEGRAPH LINES IN UTAH.

THE Saints abroad will be pleased to learn of the success of the great Telegraphic Enterprise in Utah. This line connects all the principal cities, towns, and settlements in the Territory, stretching from North to South, some 400 miles or more. Our enterprising President, foremost in all useful improvements, inaugurated and has brought to successful completion this grand work. He can now sit in his own office, and converse freely with the Saints throughout the Territory, though hundreds of miles distant. The youth of our own people have been properly instructed, and prepared to take charge at all the stations, in receiving and dispatching the lightning messages. Thus, we have the whole management of the ELECTRO-TALKATIVE ANIMAL in our own hands; and we trust that he will be learned in his youth to always speak the truth, and that all his conversation may be in righteousness, and that he may never be alienated in his feelings from the good people of the Territory who have created him, and given him a dwelling place among the righteous.

UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS.

WHAT wonders have been accomplished in the great American desert, during the last 19 years! Our enemies expelled us from our homes in Illinois, drove us fifteen hundred miles over trackless plains, snowy mountains, and sandy deserts, into the great Basin of a Territory, belonging to Mexico. Almost simultaneously with our cruel exile, the "Mormon" soldiers, under the command of United States' authority, conquered for the Federal Government an immense tract of country, greater in extent than all the Northern States combined. This, at the close of the war, was ceded by treaty on the part of Mexico to the United States; and we once more found our feet pressing the soil of the home government. Thousands of men, women, and children, had flocked to these remote mountain vales, preferring starvation and death in the solitary wilderness, rather than die at the hands of merciless persecutors. The sufferings, endured for one or two of the first years, are impossible to describe: but He who hears the orphans' cry, and the widows' mournful sobs, sent us relief. "Mormons" discovered gold in California, which convulsed the whole

world with a feverish panic. Thousands from the States came rushing like a torrent through our lonely mountain home, throwing away, comparatively speaking, their food and raiment in our midst, that they might be unencumbered in their excited race for the golden Eldorado. The Saints, for the time being, by this merciful providence, were preserved, and their pressing wants supplied.

By the unparalleled industry of a united people, the mountain streams were turned upon the parched up soil; seeds were planted, grain sown, and abundant harvests succeeded, and the sorrows of a poor outcast exiled people were turned into joy, and their mournings into songs of heart-felt gladness. Year after year, thousands of the Saints poured into our newly found home; new settlements were continually opened, new villages and cities sprung up as if by magic. A provisional State government was organized, governmental officers elected, laws enacted, and all things moved along harmoniously.

Being the first pioneers, and having taken so prominent a part in conquering so large a country from Mexico, we felt ourselves entitled to some kind considerations from the parent government, and accordingly petitioned them for admission into the Union as a State, on an equal footing with the other States. But our petition was rejected, and to our great surprise, our provisional State government was nullified, and in its stead, was enforced upon us a Territorial usurpation, with Federal officers to nullify our laws and tyrannize over us. This assumption of power, on the part of the United States, is entirely unconstitutional, in other words, the Constitution confers no power on Congress to organize Territorial governments. But the hardy pioneers, accustomed to reverses, tamely submitted to this Congressional despotism, and permitted themselves to be trampled upon, and deprived of all the sacred rights of American citizens; such as the right of suffrage, and the right of representation, and the right of being governed by legislative laws, unless such laws happened to be in taste with the Federal Governor. Congress hold their Territorial inhabitants as slaves, instead of citizens and freemen: they bind them by laws under grievous burdens, from which they are striving with mad-dened zeal to free the negroes. The colored race must have the right of suffrage—must have representation—must have a voice in the Councils of the nation,—but the poor white man who has opened up new Territory—developed the rich resources of the country—and braved the hardships of arid deserts and the arctic cold of snow-clad mountains, must submit to have all his former constitutional rights wrested from his grasp: he must humble himself under the cruel lash of Congressional slave-drivers, under the name of Federal officers. The remonstrances and voice of scores of thousands of white persons fall powerless, under the vetoing tyranny of one man. Is this in unison with the object of a Republican form of government? Is this justice? Was it for this that the pilgrim fathers poured out their blood as water? How long will the American nation suffer their Congress to usurp the sacred rights of free-born citizens, guaranteed by the Constitution, namely, the right of self-government! How long shall the Territorial white slave groan under the iron hand of Congressional tyranny! When shall the Territories be as free as the States, having power to organize their own provisional Republican State Governments, with their own officers, until they are admitted into the Union, and

have their proper representation in Congress ! Till that day comes, the American Congress is a despotic tyrant, trampling upon the rights guaranteed to the sons of freedom.

If white men venture into the great interior of the Continent, they forfeit all rights as citizens. Once they could vote, but now they are disfranchised : once they could have a voice in the laws which they desired, now they are subject to be vetoed without any appeal : once they had a voice in the appointment of officers, now a foreign despot, having no interest in their welfare, can lord it over them : once they had a Republican form of government, now they are governed as slaves, sold by Congress to Federal officers. Congress compel the people to accept annually a few thousand dollars for their degraded servitude, under pretence of relieving them from the burdens of self-government. But is there a freeman, so lost to all the sensibilities of liberty, that he would voluntarily barter away his constitutional rights, and consent to be a degraded slave, rather than to pay a few dimes a year as taxes, to support the great principle of free Republican institutions ? A man who voluntarily submits to such slavery is unworthy of freedom. Utah did not voluntarily sell herself : she asked Congress for an egg, but they gave her a serpent : she already enjoyed a provisional State government, Republican in form ; and she only asked admission upon terms of equality with the sister States. If Congress were not ready for her admission, why did they not respectfully decline the offer, and leave her in the undisturbed possession of her provisional government ? What evil had the Utonians committed, that their government should be destroyed, and an unconstitutional despotism should be forced upon them without any voice or consent of their own ? We were upon Mexican soil, entirely beyond the jurisdiction of the United States ; but our brave soldiers rendered efficient service in conquering the country. Why return us evil for good ? Why reward us with bondage and slavery, instead of permitting us to enjoy the free Republican institutions, guaranteed to American citizens ?

O. P.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

(From the Deseret News, Nov. 28th, 1866.)

On Monday, the 26th of November, the route of the overland California mail will be changed from St. Louis to Chicago, and will go by way of the north-western railroad to Woodbine, Iowa, thence by stage 35 miles to Council Bluffs and Omaha, thence by the Union Pacific railroad to its present terminus, 285 miles west of Omaha. The gap of 35 miles between Woodbine and Council Bluffs, will be filled by the 1st of January, and running time from New York to the North

Fork of Platt river, all rail, will then be six days. The Union Pacific Co. have completed the bridge across the North Fork of Platt river, and make their present terminus on the west side of the North Fork, where their workmen are encamped, waiting the resumption of operations next spring. No more work will be done until next March, but Mr. Durant is confident that he will complete 300 miles in the first 100 working days.

COMING CHANGES.

(From the Salt Lake Daily Telegraph, Dec. 7th, 1866.)

Onward from east and west come the branches of the great railroad, before many months, or years at most, to meet and unite in lasting bonds in or near this Valley. That may possibly occur in two years, very probably in three, and many people think certainly in five, many will be very much disappointed if the time is further off than that.

With a railroad across the Plains and the Great Basin, will come many important changes in the relations of this community with their fellow-citizens a long way off. When the Missouri and the Sacramento rivers are each brought within 30 or 40 hours travel of Salt Lake, the commercial condition of this Territory must be immensely different to what it is now. The present year sees the orders of April filled and goods delivered in November and December. The railroad will soon abolish that system forever, and bring the possibility of a return, in a week or little more, of orders sent to New York, and to London in little more than two weeks more. Indeed, by using the cable with orders, there will be a possibility of sending to London or Paris for a desired article, and receiving it in return in little more than a fortnight.

But those wonderful changes will be approaching before the railroad is here. They will approach with it, and the time of transit for mails, passengers, and goods, will decrease correspondingly with the advance of the railroad. As the railroad approaches the Valley, of course the distance for staging and wagon freighting will be correspondingly diminished. When there shall be only an interior of three or four hundred miles unrailled in these mountain regions—two or three days' stage travel—it is natural to conclude that a very large proportion of the travel and lighter freight will come this way, in preference to going by sea. In this view we may, within a couple of years, see our city threaded by scores of passenger and fast express stages, running daily each way between the advancing termini of the railroad. That

will give to our handsome city a livelier and more bustling appearance than anything else in its past history.

To all human appearance such a state of things can not be further off than two years. The time of isolation seems to have passed forever. Henceforth it really does appear that our citizens will be thrown more and more into close intercourse with the great world, and the system called Mormonism will no longer be looked at from a distance, but will manifest its excellencies side by side and in close and daily contact with other systems which are extant. More than ever will its advance depend on the constant efforts of the tongues and pens of its advocates, in opposition to the tongues and pens of its enemies.

This different condition of things must inure to the benefit of "Mormonism" and the "Mormons." In the past and even now, what is known of the "Mormon" people is what a few straggling travellers and refuse politicians, who brave the long and tedious stage journey here, have a mind to tell. But with vastly shorter staging, and with increased facilities, the travel through the Territory will be immense, travel of a higher class than much of the past has been, travel not only from the States, but from Europe. Princes, dukes, earls, barons, statesmen, merchant princes, literary characters of all grades, gentlemen and ladies of leisure, actors and actresses of all sorts, high and low, tragic and comic, will throng our city and Territory, instead of going round by the Isthmus.

Then we may naturally expect a more liberal feeling will be manifested towards our citizens, then they will be better known than they are now, then the present and past belief of a great many people, that the "Mormon" people are a set of Bluebeards, cannibals, scarecrows, hobgoblins, and that they have no rights which white men are obligated to respect, it may reasonably be expected, will be classed among the baseless and foolish superstitions of the dark ages.

SANDWICH ISLANDS CONFERENCE.

(From the Deseret News)

We have been courteously handed the minutes of a Conference held in Laie, Oahu, Oct. 6th, 7th, and 8th, which have been forwarded to President B. Young, from which we glean some items of interest. The meetings were presided over by Elder George Nebeker, Elder J. W. H. Kow, a native Elder, being clerk. Elders A. L. Smith, B. Cluff, Eli Bell, E. Grane, C. World, Lawson and Boyden, from Zion, were present. The Saints were complimented by President Nebeker upon their improved appearance, and particularly for their singing. Instructions suitable to the wants and condition of the people were given. About 1,000 were reported members of the Church on the Islands, many of whom were manifesting much faith and good works, though some were reported as rather indifferent, manifesting but little interest in religion of any kind. Several native Elders ad-

ressed the congregation during the continuance of the Conference, and a considerable portion of the Spirit of God was enjoyed by speakers and people. In sustaining the Authorities, Elder Nebeker was sustained as President of the Sandwich Islands Mission, with A. L. Smith and B. Cluff as his Counsellors. Elders Kanahnnahupu, Kanawai, and Kamakea, were appointed to preside over the islands of Hawaii, Mani, and Kani, until the next April Conference.

On the evening of Sunday the 7th, a meeting was held for the brethren and sisters who were not natives.

At the close of the Conference, the Saints expressed themselves that they had had a time of rejoicing, and felt blessed and much benefitted by meeting together.

Several converts were baptized during Conference.

CRIMES AND DISASTERS OF A WEEK.

(From the New York Correspondent of the Standard.)

If a faithful record of the crimes and disasters that have taken place in this land of the free, could be presented to the reading and thinking public, it seems probable that the friends of true reform might get a hearing. To what great law the circumstance is due, that casualties and crimes, like sorrows, come in battalions, I know not, but the fact is patent, nevertheless. An awful disaster at sea, like that of the sinking of the Evening Star, is sure to be followed by half-a-dozen similar occurrences, attended by a greater or less degree of horror. A terrible railway accident is inevitably followed, and generally accompanied, by two or three or half-a-dozen collisions and smash-ups. A great fire, destroying half a city, apparently scatters its brands over a hundred villages and

hamlets, and we have for weeks our daily dozen of conflagrations. A horrible murder, like that of the Deering family, is invariably succeeded by a score of frightful slaughters. And a great robbery never lacks company. A reference to the disasters and crimes of the past week, as recorded in the public journals, will furnish striking proof of what we may term the coincidences of misfortune. The news of the loss of the Suwanee had hardly reached the public last week, when a brief telegram from San Francisco informed us that 14 bodies had been washed ashore near that place from the wreck of the Coya. Next we were startled by news of the explosion of the steam drum of the Chesapeake Bay steamer, Thomas Kelso. By this accident three firemen were boiled to

shreds, and 21 passengers were seriously scalded. The explosion took place at night, and the passengers were asleep in their berths. At nearly the same time on the same night, the Long Island Sound steamer, William Cook, ran over a yawl containing five persons, not one of whom was rescued. On Monday night a tenement-house, in Division-street, in this city, was set on fire: nine persons were suffocated in their beds. Our tenement houses are, with few exceptions, unprovided with fire-escapes—a single narrow stairway runs from basement to attic of each. A fire occurring in the lower stories, therefore, renders the escape of the people living on the upper floors difficult, and in many cases impossible. This Division-street fire succeeded another similar fire in Walker-street, whereby three persons, at least, and probably more, lost their lives. And it in turn was succeeded by a similar fire in East Thirty-first-street. This fire broke out in the night time; the 120 inhabitants of the tenement house succeeded in escaping with life—one woman jumped from the fourth-floor window; six were badly, if not fatally burned; all the familiar, but horrible scenes, were re-enacted. Last evening an explosion took place in the kitchen of the Compton House, corner of Twenty-fourth-street and Broadway, by which six persons were fatally burned, and two persons badly injured. On Thursday of last week, the vats of an oil refinery in Cincinnati took fire and exploded; three persons were killed outright, and three persons have since died from the effects of injuries received at the time. On Saturday last seven disastrous fires occurred in Cleveland, Ohio; three of them are believed to have been of incendiary origin. A fire, by which three persons were burned to death, occurred in Kansas city, Missouri, a few days since; a doctor and his partner have been arrested, charged with having caused the fire, and one of the prisoners has confessed that the conflagration was kindled by himself and his associate. On Monday evening a fire broke out in the little village of Columbia, Pennsylvania; 23 buildings were burned; loss, \$140,000. The dye-house of the Burlington Woollen

Company, at Winooski, Vermont, was burned on Monday; 800 workmen are thrown out of employment by this disaster. On Saturday last four large buildings were burned in Norfolk, Virginia. On Sunday, the business portion of the town of Columbia, Tennessee, was burned; loss, \$175,000 to \$200,000; little or no insurance. On the same day, property of the value of \$20,000 was destroyed by fire in Nashville, Tennessee. On Monday, in Lancaster, N.H., the barns of a well-to-do farmer were fired by a discarded servant; an immense quantity of hay and grain, and 35 head of cattle, were burned. A large paper-mill was burned in Rockton, Illinois, on Tuesday; loss, \$15,000. Another paper-mill was burned at Minoka, Illinois, on the same day; loss, \$18,000. On Sunday, the dwelling of James Miller, in Rock Island, Illinois, was burned; Mrs. Miller, a woman 70 years of age, and two of her grandchildren, were burned to death; another grandchild received injuries that subsequently proved fatal. On Sunday night a fire broke out in war-shattered Atlanta, Georgia; one building valued at \$27,000 was burned. This was but an *avant courier*. On the following night several wooden buildings in the same city were burned. In New Orleans, on Sunday, property valued at \$11,000 was burned. At Highland Falls, in Dutchess county, in this State, on Tuesday, a flour-mill worth \$30,000 was burned. At Poughkeepsie, in the same county, an incendiary fire took place. The Orleans Theatre, in Cincinnati, was burned on Wednesday; the flames communicated to adjoining buildings, and a block was wiped out; loss, \$280,000. Four fires in this city within seven days, have consumed property valued at \$300,000. The fast Mississippi river steamer Emperor sank, with a valuable cargo, near Louisville, on Wednesday. A terrible tornado has just swept over Henderson and Rush counties, Texas, killing six persons and grinding up several houses. Three persons were killed by a falling wall in Cincinnati on Sunday. One man was killed, and two men were terribly injured, by a gas explosion in Buffalo on Monday. By a boiler explosion at Henderson, Ken-

tucky, on Saturday, three persons were killed and several persons injured. (It is hardly in place to refer to Canada in this connection, but I may state that on Sunday the post-office, telegraph-office, and several stores and warehouses in Vienna, Canada West, were burned; one old man perished in the flames. The railway station at St. Jean Port Joli, Canada East, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday: the station-master and his son and daughter were burned to death; the station-master's wife received severe injuries in jumping from the upper story of the burning building.) Of murders, garrotings, forgeries, robberies, and swindlings, it were easy to chronicle several score as the record of the week. Dr. William R. Massey, a well known surgeon of this city, was set upon by two rowdies and beaten to death with slung-shots or iron knuckles, a few evenings since. The murder was committed at ten o'clock in the evening. A dozen people saw the whole affair. The locality was in the most fashionable portion of the west side. It is not probable that the assassins will ever be discovered, or, if discovered, convicted. In Brooklyn lately, three Irish ruffians broke into an apartment occupied by three sewing women. After violating the persons of the women, the desperadoes made off with a quantity of vests upon which the poor victims were working. One of the villains tore an earring from the ear of one of the women. There is very little probability that these hardened wretches will be punished. On Monday night, some river thieves boarded a steamer lying at her dock in Brooklyn, and after hanging the watchman by the neck to a hook in the cabin ceiling, they deliberately ripped up the carpets of the cabin floors and carried them off unmolested. In Cairo, Illinois, on Saturday, a woman chopped her two young children with an axe, subsequently sawing her own throat with a dull

knife. Six members of a family were poisoned in Hartford, Connecticut, last week. One of the victims has died, the others are in a critical condition. The supposed poisoner is under arrest. The treasurer of the Pennsylvania Building Association, a company of hardworking Germans, who have sought by clubbing together to reduce the cost of erecting tenements for themselves and families, ran away on Sunday with the funds of the association: as a sequel, one of the swindled laborers has shot out his brains. Caleb Lyon, lately governor of Idaho Territory, arrived in Washington the loser of \$47,000 in government funds, of which Lyon says that he was robbed on a sleeping car. As there was a mysterious jumble in Mr. Lyon's account, some people are uncharitable enough to say that the ex-governor's story of a robbery is concocted to cover his own delinquencies. A wealthy farmer, named Randall, living in Rensselaer county, has been committed to goal in Troy, on the charge of committing a horrid outrage on the person of his own daughter, a child eleven years of age. Horace Luther, said to have been a respectable man, killed William Taylor in Colebrooke, N.H., on Monday; this deed being done, Luther shot himself. Female fickleness led to this tragedy. A free fight took place in a St. Louis bar-room on Monday; two persons were shot—one has since died. A hasty glance over a single newspaper is sufficient to the gathering of the following "headings"—"Forty-three persons sentenced to the Penitentiary in Brownsville, Missouri;" "Arrest of an Alleged Murderer in Pittsburg;" "Garroting in St. Louis;" "Murder in Cincinnati;" "Murder in Norwich;" "Murder in Leavenworth;" "Homicide in the Fourth Ward;" "Fatal stabbing affray on shipboard;" "Murder in Richmond;" "Forgeries in the Treasury Department," &c.;

The above is a sample of the disasters and crimes among one of the most civilized Christian nations upon the earth. If we were to add the calamities which happen, in about the same time, among the other nations of Christendom, what a frightful spectacle would be presented! Surely the day of the Lord's vengeance is come!

shreds, and 21 passengers were seriously scalded. The explosion took place at night, and the passengers were asleep in their berths. At nearly the same time on the same night, the Long Island Sound steamer, William Cook, ran over a yawl containing five persons, not one of whom was rescued. On Monday night a tenement-house, in Division-street, in this city, was set on fire; nine persons were suffocated in their beds. Our tenement houses are, with few exceptions, unprovided with fire-escapes—a single narrow stairway runs from basement to attic of each. A fire occurring in the lower stories, therefore, renders the escape of the people living on the upper floors difficult, and in many cases impossible. This Division-street fire succeeded another similar fire in Walker-street, whereby three persons, at least, and probably more, lost their lives. And it in turn was succeeded by a similar fire in East Thirty-first-street. This fire broke out in the night time; the 120 inhabitants of the tenement house succeeded in escaping with life—one woman jumped from the fourth-floor window; six were badly, if not fatally burned; all the familiar, but horrible scenes, were re-enacted. Last evening an explosion took place in the kitchen of the Compton House, corner of Twenty-fourth-street and Broadway, by which six persons were fatally burned, and two persons badly injured. On Thursday of last week, the vats of an oil refinery in Cincinnati took fire and exploded; three persons were killed outright, and three persons have since died from the effects of injuries received at the time. On Saturday last seven disastrous fires occurred in Cleveland, Ohio; three of them are believed to have been of incendiary origin. A fire, by which three persons were burned to death, occurred in Kansas city, Missouri, a few days since; a doctor and his partner have been arrested, charged with having caused the fire, and one of the prisoners has confessed that the conflagration was kindled by himself and his associate. On Monday evening a fire broke out in the little village of Columbia, Pennsylvania; 23 buildings were burned; loss, \$140,000. The dye-house of the Burlington Woollen

Company, at Winooski, Vermont, was burned on Monday; 800 workmen are thrown out of employment by this disaster. On Saturday last four large buildings were burned in Norfolk, Virginia. On Sunday, the business portion of the town of Columbia, Tennessee, was burned; loss, \$175,000 to \$200,000; little or no insurance. On the same day, property of the value of \$20,000 was destroyed by fire in Nashville, Tennessee. On Monday, in Lancaster, N.H., the barns of a well-to-do farmer were fired by a discarded servant; an immense quantity of hay and grain, and 35 head of cattle, were burned. A large paper-mill was burned in Rockton, Illinois, on Tuesday; loss, \$15,000. Another paper-mill was burned at Minoka, Illinois, on the same day; loss, \$18,000. On Sunday, the dwelling of James Miller, in Rock Island, Illinois, was burned; Mrs. Miller, a woman 70 years of age, and two of her grandchildren, were burned to death; another grandchild received injuries that subsequently proved fatal. On Sunday night a fire broke out in war-shattered Atlanta, Georgia; one building valued at \$27,000 was burned. This was but an *avant courier*. On the following night several wooden buildings in the same city were burned. In New Orleans, on Sunday, property valued at \$11,000 was burned. At Highland Falls, in Dutchess county, in this State, on Tuesday, a flour-mill worth \$30,000 was burned. At Poughkeepsie, in the same county, an incendiary fire took place. The Orleans Theatre, in Cincinnati, was burned on Wednesday; the flames communicated to adjoining buildings, and a block was wiped out; loss, \$280,000. Four fires in this city within seven days, have consumed property valued at \$300,000. The fast Mississippi river steamer Emperor sank, with a valuable cargo, near Louisville, on Wednesday. A terrible tornado has just swept over Henderson and Rush counties, Texas, killing six persons and grinding up several houses. Three persons were killed by a falling wall in Cincinnati on Sunday. One man was killed, and two men were terribly injured, by a gas explosion in Buffalo on Monday. By a boiler explosion at Henderson, Ken-

tucky, on Saturday, three persons were killed and several persons injured. (It is hardly in place to refer to Canada in this connection, but I may state that on Sunday the post-office, telegraph-office, and several stores and warehouses in Vienna, Canada West, were burned; one old man perished in the flames. The railway station at St. Jean Port Joli, Canada East, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday: the station-master and his son and daughter were burned to death; the station-master's wife received severe injuries in jumping from the upper story of the burning building.) Of murders, garrotings, forgeries, robberies, and swindlings, it were easy to chronicle several score as the record of the week. Dr. William R. Massey, a well known surgeon of this city, was set upon by two rowdies and beaten to death with slung-shots or iron knuckles, a few evenings since. The murder was committed at ten o'clock in the evening. A dozen people saw the whole affair. The locality was in the most fashionable portion of the west side. It is not probable that the assassins will ever be discovered, or, if discovered, convicted. In Brooklyn lately, three Irish ruffians broke into an apartment occupied by three sewing women. After violating the persons of the women, the desperadoes made off with a quantity of vests upon which the poor victims were working. One of the villains tore an earring from the ear of one of the women. There is very little probability that these hardened wretches will be punished. On Monday night, some river thieves boarded a steamer lying at her dock in Brooklyn, and after hanging the watchman by the neck to a hook in the cabin ceiling, they deliberately ripped up the carpets of the cabin floors and carried them off unmolested. In Cairo, Illinois, on Saturday, a woman chopped her two young children with an axe, subsequently sawing her own throat with a dull

knife. Six members of a family were poisoned in Hartford, Connecticut, last week. One of the victims has died, the others are in a critical condition. The supposed poisoner is under arrest. The treasurer of the Pennsylvania Building Association, a company of hardworking Germans, who have sought by clubbing together to reduce the cost of erecting tenements for themselves and families, ran away on Sunday with the funds of the association: as a sequel, one of the swindled laborers has shot out his brains. Caleb Lyon, lately governor of Idaho Territory, arrived in Washington the loser of \$47,000 in government funds, of which Lyon says that he was robbed on a sleeping car. As there was a mysterious jumble in Mr. Lyon's account, some people are uncharitable enough to say that the ex-governor's story of a robbery is concocted to cover his own delinquencies. A wealthy farmer, named Randall, living in Rensselaer county, has been committed to goal in Troy, on the charge of committing a horrid outrage on the person of his own daughter, a child eleven years of age. Horace Luther, said to have been a respectable man, killed William Taylor in Colebrooke, N. H., on Monday; this deed being done, Luther shot himself. Female tickleness led to this tragedy. A free fight took place in a St. Louis bar-room on Monday; two persons were shot—one has since died. A hasty glance over a single newspaper is sufficient to the gathering of the following "headings":—"Forty-three persons sentenced to the Penitentiary in Brownsville, Missouri;" "Arrest of an Alleged Murderer in Pittsburg;" "Garroting in St. Louis;" "Murder in Cincinnati;" "Murder in Norwich;" "Murder in Leavenworth;" "Homicide in the Fourth Ward;" "Fatal stabbing affray on shipboard;" "Murder in Richmond;" "Forgeries in the Treasury Department," &c.;

The above is a sample of the disasters and crimes among one of the most civilized Christian nations upon the earth. If we were to add the calamities which happen, in about the same time, among the other nations of Christendom, what a frightful spectacle would be presented! Surely the day of the Lord's vengeance is come!